THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, 28th June 1952.

The House met in the Legislative Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at half past eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—HOURS OF SITTING OF THE ASSEMBLY.

SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNIAH :—" అధ్యక్షా, ఈ అసెంబ్లీ సమావేశం నిబంధనలరీత్యా (21 ఎ క్లాజు ప్రకారం) సమావేశం పగలు 11 ఘంటలు సాయింత్రం 5 ఘంటల మధ్య జరుపబడవలసి యున్నది. కాని ఈ సమావేశం ఉదయం 8-30 ఘంటలకే ప్రారంభించడం నిబంధనావళిని అనుసరించి కాదు. నిబధంనలలో మార్పులు చేయకుండా సమావేశ కాలాన్ని మార్చగూడదని point of order raise చేస్తున్నాను."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The time given in the rule can be changed by me with the consent of the Leaders of Parties. I consulted them and they agreed to the revised timing. The hon. Member will now resume his seat."

Sri Vavilala Gopalakrishniah was heard to say something.

MR. SPEAKER :—" Order, order. I have given the ruling."

Sri Vavilala Gopalakrishniah continued to say something.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I will allow the hon. Member to say what he wants to say, later on."

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Statement made by the Hon. the Chief Minister regarding Linguistic Provinces.

* 1 Q.—SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether he made any statement last month (April 1952) before a Press Conference on the subject of Linguistic Provinces;

(b) if so, what it was; and

(c) what are the steps which the Government propose to take to implement the promise to form an Andhra Province without delay?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (a) I did express some opinions which have been published.

" (b) & (c) I need not go on repeating my opinions. They are no more than opinions. The Government of India will take all opinions and facts into account when they deem the time has arrived for a step to be taken."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" In sub-clause (c), I did not ask for the opinion of the Hon. the Chief Minister. I am asking what steps the Government propose to take to implement the promise to form an Andhra Province."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" This Government are not in a position to take any fresh steps. The matter has been very thoroughly discussed and time and again matters have been represented to the Government of India. This Government do not feel that they can do anything useful at the present moment. If the House wants to make any representation to the Government of India, it will certainly be in a position to do so."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know whether the Hon. the Chief Minister has addressed any communication to the Prime Minister of India on the subject, suggesting that no steps need be taken within a year? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" If the question means that the hon. Member has been told that I have written such a letter, I categorically say ' No '."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" On the basis of the correspondence between the late Sardar Patel and Mr. T. Prakasam, may I know whether this Government are going to recommend the immediate formation of the Andhra Province? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" This correspondence was well known to the Members of the Government of India and to some of us here. There is nothing new which, as I have already said, I can do now, Sir."

SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNIAH :—" అధ్యక్షా, పార్టిషన్ కమిటి రిపోర్టు ప్రకారంగా ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రాన్ని వెంటనే నిర్మించవలసిందని కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వానికి recommend చేయడానికి మద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వం తయారుగా ఉన్నదా ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" This is being reduced to a debate. I must say once for all that it is for the Government of India to decide, and any correspondence and exchange of views depend entirely on the situation that arises from time to time. I am not prepared to express, in reply to the hon. Member's question, what I shall do when the Government of India ask me."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" My question was whether the Hon. the Chief Minister had addressed any communication to Sri Jawaharlal Nehru or the Prime Minister of India suggesting that no steps need be taken within one year. Is he aware of a press report that his letter was read at a meeting of the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The terms in which my Friend gave the correspondence are not correct,

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and I am not prepared to reveal the correspondence between me and the Prime Minister in exact terms. I have already said that the quotation is wrong and I did not send such a letter."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" When the Hon. the Chief Minister says that what I have said is incorrect, it is up to him to tell us what is correct. I do not want the exact terms. May I know the gist of his communication to the Prime Minister? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" No Sir. It is not in the public interest to disclose such correspondence in the House."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Holding as he does, the position of the Chief Minister of this State, does he not think that his correspondence on a matter of such importance affecting the Andhra people should be known to the people? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am quite aware of the duties of my position and the obligations following therefrom and I am quite prepared to say that the matter is important. But I am in a position to reaffirm that correspondence between the Prime Minister of India and the Chief Minister here which is of a confidential character cannot be disclosed whatever the subject-matter may be. Occasions for such correspondence arise every day and correspondence will become useless and meaningless if we make it a matter for public discussion."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is becoming more or less a cross-examination."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Under what provision of law is the correspondence treated as confidential? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" These are letters from one gentleman to another and gentlemen's correspondence is always private."

Pennar-Kumudavathi Scheme.

* 2 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM : " Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the present stage of progress of the Pennar-Kumudavathi scheme is; and

(*b*) when it is likely to be completed?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (*a*) The major portion of the anicut, and the head sluices have been built. The excavation of two leading channels from the scouring sluices of the anicut is in progress, and all supply channels, except Subbaroyapalli channel, taking off from the two leading channels have been completed but for the bridging of a few gaps and crossings.